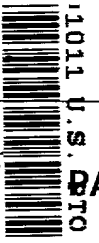


12/18/01



1011 U.S. PTO

**UTILITY  
PATENT APPLICATION  
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.		21547/0287	
First Named Inventor or Application Identifier			
Title		METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING ELONGATE SUPPORT ELEMENT AND PRODUCT, AND USE OF THE SUPPORT ELEMENT	
Express Mail Label No.			

1011 U.S. PTO  
10/020401  
12/18/01

**APPLICATION ELEMENTS**

ADDRESS TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Box Applications  
Washington, D.C. 20231

1. ☒ Filing fee as calculated below.
2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status  
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages **[14]**  
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
  - Descriptive title of the invention
  - Cross References to Related Applications
  - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
  - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
  - Background of the Invention
  - Brief Summary of the invention
  - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
  - Detailed Description
  - Claim(s)
  - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) [Total Pages **[2]**
5. ☐ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages **[2]**
  - a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
  - b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
(for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)
    - i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)  
named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b)
6. ☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)
8. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
  - a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
  - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
    - i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
    - ii. ☐ paper
  - c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

9. ☒ Assignment papers (cover sheet & document(s)) **SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ASSIGNEE INFORMATION**
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney  
(when there is an assignee)
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
13. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)  
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified copy of Priority Document(s)  
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Other:

17. ☒ **CONTINUING APPLICATION**, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:  
☐ Continuation ☒ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No. 09/423,090  
Prior application information: Examiner N. Lucchesi Group/Art Unit: 3732  
For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

**17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label	<b>000030678</b> (Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)	or correspondence address below
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NAME	Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP				
ADDRESS	Suite 800				
	1990 M Street, N.W.				
CITY	Washington	STATE	DC	ZIP CODE	20036-3425
COUNTRY	U.S.A	TELEPHONE	(202) 331-7111	FAX	(202) 293-6229

Return Postcard

		(Col 1)		(Col 2)		(Col 3)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	NON-SMALL ENTITY	
		NO. FILED				NO. EXTRA		RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
TOTAL		8		minus		20 = 0		x9=	\$		x18=	\$
INDEP		2		minus		3 = 0		x42=	\$		x84=	\$
_ First Presentation, Multiple Dependent Claims								+140=	\$		+280=	\$
Base Filing Fee									\$370			\$740
Other Fee (specify purpose)									\$			\$
TOTAL FILING FEE* (accounting for possible small entity status)									\$	OR	TOTAL	\$740.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ to cover the filing fee is enclosed
- ☐ No payment is enclosed at this time. Full payment will be made when the executed Declaration is submitted.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **22-0185** as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

- ☒ Charge the amount of \$740.00 as filing fee
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16
- ☒ Charge any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.17
- ☒ If filing fee is not enclosed herewith, the filing fee(s) required to Deposit Account No. **22-0185**.

Name (Print/Type)	Patrick J. Wells	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,355
Signature	Patrick J Wells		Date 12/18/01